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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: **Kimio KAWAGOE et al.**

Serial No.: **Not Yet Assigned**
(§ 371 of international application No. PCT/JP01/06442)

Filed: **March 26, 2002**For: **SLIDING BEARING**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 26, 2002

Sir:

Prior to the calculation of the filing fees of the above application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

a' That is, the present invention is related to a sliding bearing, wherein an overlay, which consists of at least one solid lubricant and a binder resin, covers an aluminum-alloy bearing layer bonded on the backing metal, characterized in that said overlay consists of an upper layer, which contains the solid lubricant essentially consisting of MoS_2 , and a lower layer consisting of one or both of at least one solid lubricant and at least one hard additive (hereinafter referred to as "the additive"), and, further, the MoS_2 gradually decreases without steps and the hard additive increases